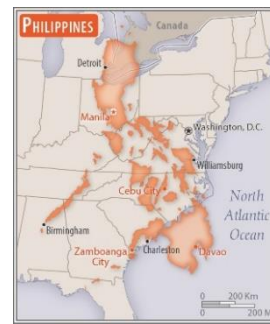




PHILIPPINES



INTRODUCTION

The Philippine Islands became a Spanish colony during the 16th century and were ceded to the US in 1898 following the Spanish-American War. In 1935, the Philippines became a self-governing commonwealth. Following Japanese occupation during World War II, the Republic of the Philippines attained its independence on July 4, 1946.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Ferdinand "BongBong" MARCOS, Jr.

Head of Government

President Ferdinand "BongBong" MARCOS, Jr.

Government Type

presidential republic

Capital

Manila

Legislature

bicameral Congress or Kongreso consists of the Senate or Senado (24 seats) and the House of Representatives or Kapulungan Ng Mga Kinatawan (316 seats)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Jose Manuel del Gallego ROMUALDEZ

US Ambassador

Ambassador MaryKay Loss CARLSON

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 300,000 sq km

Land: 298,170 sq km

Water: 1,830 sq km

Climate

tropical marine; northeast monsoon (November to April); southwest monsoon (May to October)

Natural Resources

timber, petroleum, nickel, cobalt, silver, gold, salt, copper

as of October 2023

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

growing East Asian economy; hard post-pandemic recovery; key electronics exporter; significant remittances; growing regional tensions with China; declining unemployment; climate change risk to food security; major equity concerns

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$921.8 billion (2021 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$8,100 (2021 est.)

Industries - semiconductors, electronics assembly, business process outsourcing, food/beverage manufacturing, construction

Agricultural products – sugar cane, rice, coconuts, maize, bananas, vegetables, tropical fruit, plantains, pineapples, cassava

Exports \$87.79 billion (2021 est.)

Integrated circuits, office machinery/parts, insulated wiring, transformers, semiconductors (2021)

partners: China 16%, US 14%, Japan 12%, Hong Kong 12%, Singapore 7% (2021)

Imports \$126.5 billion (2021 est.)

integrated circuits, refined petroleum, office machinery, broadcasting equipment, cars (2021)

partners: China 34%, Japan 7%, South Korea 6%, Indonesia 6%, US 6%, (2021)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

116.4 million (2023 est.)

Population Growth

1.6% (2023 est.)

Ethnicity

Tagalog 26%, Bisaya/Binisaya 14.3%, Ilocano 8%, Cebuano 8%, Ilonggo 7.9%, Bikol/Bicol 6.5%, Waray 3.8%, Kapampangan 3%, other local ethnicities 22.3%, foreign ethnicities 0.2% (2020 est.)

Language

Tagalog 39.9%, Bisaya/Binisaya 16%, Hiligaynon/Ilonggo 7.3%, Ilocano 7.1%, Cebuano 6.5%, Bikol/Bicol 3.9%, Waray 2.6%, Kapampangan 2.4%, other languages/dialects 13.9%, unspecified 0.4% (2020 est.)

Religion

Roman Catholic 78.8%, Muslim 6.4%, Iglesia ni Cristo 2.6%, other Christian 3.9%, other 8.2%, none/unspecified <0.1 (2020 est.)